



Bits of Gold



MONTANA TALKING BOOK LIBRARY

1515 E. 6th Ave., Helena, MT 59620 - 406-444-2064 - 800-332-3400

Fall 1996

FAN LETTERS

Narrators, aware of their audience's needs, are very interested in the people who listen to them and are delighted to get comments. They are neither rich nor famous, but are dedicated to their professions. Both narrators for the National Library Service and volunteer narrators for the Montana Cassette Recording program enjoy hearing from the people who listen to them. If you have a favorite narrator, you can request a book by that person. Send your comments to the Montana Talking Book Library and it will reach the narrator.

SKI FOR LIGHT

The 22nd annual Ski for Light will be held at Cragun's Conference Center in Brainerd, MN from February 23 through March 2, 1997. The cost, including meals, lodging (based on double occupancy), ski instruction, equipment for first-time skiers and after-hours activities, will be about \$575. No prior knowledge of cross-country skiing is necessary. For an application contact: Larry Showalter, 206 Vista Drive, Gahanna, OH 43230, (614) 478-7898; or Ski for Light home page at

<http://www.tmn.com/sfl/home.html>

Surfing the Net

The Montana Talking Book Library invites you to join us at our Internet home page <http://msl.mt.gov/mtbl/tbl.html>. Our home page describes the services we offer, has a copy of the application for services, a list of the staff and their e-mail addresses and other useful information. There is also a link to the home page of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) where you can use Web-BLND to search the Union Catalog. The Union Catalog is a catalog of titles available in braille or audio by NLS and other sources. Web-BLND can be reached through the Montana Talking Book homepage or the NLS homepage at <http://lcweb.loc.gov/nls> and follow the link to Web-BLND. Patrons can easily search the catalog by author, title, subject, series, book number or key word. The Talking Book Library is excited to make this available to you and can send you additional information on searching the Union Catalog. Watch this newsletter for updates on information available on the 'net' which might be of help or interest to you.

"FREE" SERVICE

Although there is no charge for the books, equipment or service you receive from the Talking Book Library, it does cost money to produce these materials and operate the program. Here are some figures to give you an idea how much these things cost.

Cassette book machine	\$236.00
Headphones	\$ 13.23
Recorded Cassette Book	\$ 5.54

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has a budget of \$44 million dollars. The grand total of tax dollars that go into library services for the blind and physically handicapped is over \$124 million dollars. It costs tax payers \$.60 each to provide these "FREE" library services to the approximately 550,000 readers in the United States.

GOODBYES AND HELLOS

The Montana State Library has had a few staff changes in the last couple of months. Karen Strege began her job as State Librarian on August 5. Richard Miller, the former State Librarian, accepted a job in Nebraska.

Gen Allen, Coordinator of Volunteer Services for the State Library and Director of the Montana Cassette Recording Program, left to go study Oriental medicine and acupuncture. Her position was filled by Christie Briggs,

formerly employed in the Governor's Office of Community Service. Christie has had experience working with volunteers in a hospital setting and was Area Director of the American Cancer Society Oregon Division.

REMINISCE

Reiman Publications in Greendale, WI has donated copies of Reminisce, a paper bound large-print book containing essays from the company's bi-monthly magazine of the same name. If you'd like a free copy of this book, please call 1-800-332-3400. They will be issued on a first come, first serve basis.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

As the new Volunteer Coordinator, I would like to "spotlight" and pay tribute to one of our volunteers in each newsletter. Not only do we enjoy each and every volunteer, we are constantly in awe of their dedication, skills and hard work to help the patrons of the Montana Talking Book Library.

Each volunteer gives a tremendous amount of themselves and deserves equal attention, praise and appreciation. I have chosen to begin with Donna Anders.

Donna enters the door to our library on Monday afternoon and literally lights up the room with her smile. Her eyes are bright and full of mischief! She is skilled at her specialty of rewinding and checking books for

defects and is very careful about the way her job is accomplished.

Donna started volunteering at the Talking Book Library in May of 1982. Linda Brander, the volunteer coordinator and a friend of the family, thought Donna would enjoy the work and be good at it. Linda was right on both counts. Donna first started coming two

days a week, she then chose Monday as her regular day and has stuck with it ever since.

Donna has many talents and interests. Among them are her wonderful memory, enjoyment of people, sketching, bowling, sign language, her desire to learn and her deep love of her family.

GIFTS

Each year the Montana Talking Book Library uses donated funds to purchase special equipment and materials that would not otherwise be available. Tax deductible contributions frequently are made by friends and patrons to honor the memory of a loved one or for special occasions. When a gift is received at the library, a thank-you letter is sent to the donor. If it is a memorial, a notification is also sent to the family, informing them that a gift has been made. The amount of the gift is confidential.

When a memorial is made please include the name of the person for whom the tribute is made, and the name and address of the people to be notified of the gift.

DONORS

Thelma Beausoleil
Butte Lions Club
C. E. & Ellen Charlton
Buster & Priscella Dickert
Eileen Eisenman
Ann Ferrell
John E. Fred
Agnes & Eivind Frost
Great Divide Cluster
Walter R. Hahn
Mrs. Harry Henricksen

Jean Loshesky
Joanna R. McCrea
Nellie Messer
Montana Association for
The Blind
Elaine Mueller
Lorann Newhouse
Alenath Rich
Rose Mary O. Rougle
Leonard & Fern Salisbury
Theodore & Irene Schreiber

Sadie Smith
Mrs. Thayer Stevens
Russell & Anna Stewart
Rose Sylling
Doris Triplett
Velma Turner
Kimberly Wichman
Tom & Amoretta Wilkins
Florence R. Bailey
Woodworth

MEMORIALS

BAERTSCH, LARRY
Oscar G. Baertsch
Beverly Wetzel
Grace Zimmerman

BECK, JON
Dick & Nancy Beck

BILLS, JOHN
Pete & Mary Kay Decker
BRITTON, WM.
Joan & Bill Kidd

CHAPPELL, CAROLE
JOYCE

Marilyn J. Babcock
 Norma L. Stewart
 George Schissler
 Helen Brown
 Leroy & Shirley Pollock
 Gary & Nancy Pollock
 Carol S. Kramer
 James & Mary Knapp
 James & Lavina Kanuit
 Carol Dye
 Nolan & Violet Devries
 Leslie & Gwen Meierding
 Doyle & Marie Foster
DRAMSTAD, AL
 Linda Cavigli & Etta
 Dramstad
FLIGHTNER, RUTH
 Maymie Briggs
GELHAUS, ADELAIDE
 Esther Mathews
 Doug & Jean Mathews

Donna & Clay Landa
 Margaret Orr
 Frank & Joan Davis
HUDSON, JANE
 Joan Allen Cranston
 Pete & Mary Kay Decker
 Peggy & Bert Guthrie
 James E. Hauptman
HAUPTMAN, LOIS
 Peggy & Bert Guthrie
JOHNSON, EVA
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 Helen Turcotte
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MANNS, WALTER A.
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 Shortridge
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 JoAnne Lose

Angeline Lose
 Phyllis Brown
 Margaret Rom
 Mr.& Mrs. Arnold Spitzer
 Rose Sylling
NEUMAN, MARGARET
 Ernest Neumann
REYNOLDS, GENE
 Herb & Lea Blunn
SMITH, ROSEMARY
 Mr. & Mrs. Jack Hollow
 Mr. & Mrs. Dan Cromrich
 Bill & Betty McLaughlin
 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kelly
 Mr. & Mrs. James I. Killoy
 Mrs. Charlotte Thorkelson
 Butte-Silver Bow Council
 of Comm.
 Don & Wilma Puich
 John & Joan McMahon
SWALLING, BRUCE
 Loyal & Dorothy Baertsch



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 1515 EAST SIXTH AVENUE
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FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND

This publication is also available on audio-cassette.